

SECRET

25X1

53

83

EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

OCI #0704/68  
13 April 1968

Hungarian Reaction to Life Exposé of Peace Hoax

The repercussions of Janos Radvanyi's exposé of Foreign Minister Peter's 1966 "peace hoax" published in Life will forestall any hope of improving US-Hungarian relations in the immediate future, [REDACTED]

25X1

Among themselves the Hungarians do not accuse the US of complicity in the preparation of the article, but they object to the "failure of US security organizations" to stop publication of the article.

The Hungarians have not responded officially to the Radvanyi article. Foreign Ministry officials in London have suggested that Radvanyi should be personally discredited in the same manner that the Soviets tried to discredit Svetlana Alliluyeva. This plan is meeting some opposition from other officials who maintain that Radvanyi's account will be hard to discredit because it is basically true.

25X1

Czechoslovakia To Pursue More Active Foreign Policy

The Czechoslovak offer to host the proposed US-North Vietnamese talks is one of the first signs that Prague hopes to play a more active role in international affairs.

The first secretary of the Czechoslovak Embassy in Bern, Radko Fajfr, commented to this effect on 8 April, and added that Czechoslovak diplomatic missions will soon be instructed to take the initiative in an effort to improve contacts with Western and non-aligned diplomats.

Commenting specifically on the offer to host talks in Prague, Fajfr listed the advantages of Prague as a site, including excellent transportation, communication hotel and conference facilities, and the fact that the US, North Vietnam, and the National Liberation Front have missions there. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

GROUP I  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION

SECRET

25X1

-2-

COMMENT: Newly-appointed Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek also indicated on 10 April that Czechoslovakia would be pursuing a more active foreign policy, particularly vis-a-vis Western Europe and the US.

25X6

Bulgarian Resident Correspondent Named to Athens

Aleksandur Golemanov has been named Bulgaria's first resident correspondent in Athens for the BTA (Bulgarian Telegraph Agency). Golemanov's appointment is part of a reciprocal agreement which will also send an as yet unidentified Greek correspondent to Sofia.

25X1

25X1

COMMENT: Sofia's decision to consummate this agreement, despite the anti-communist nature of the military government in Athens, reinforces Bulgaria's determination to pursue a policy of detente throughout the Balkans.

SECRET

25X1

-3-

East Germans Claim Prague Reporter Exaggerated

According to a West German news service, the East Germans have accused a Czechoslovak correspondent of causing ill-will between the new Dubcek regime in Prague and the government in East Berlin. DPA Hamburg on 12 April claimed that East German press chief Kurt Blecha accused Czechoslovak correspondent Pavel Guensberg of "tendentious reporting" of critical remarks made last month by GDR ideologist Kurt Hager. According to Blecha, Guensberg used "exaggerated language" in reporting that Hager had warned Dubcek against going too far with reforms and leadership changes in Prague.

25X1

25X1

Polish Educational Reorganization Planned

Polish educational and party officials met in Warsaw on 11 April to discuss a long-range campaign to reorganize Poland's higher schools and to "modernize" teaching methods. The meeting emphasized that a new draft law on higher schools should stress the "didactic-educational" role of higher schools and grant much greater prerogatives to the rectors of educational institutes, i.e. coupling more indoctrination with increased administrative control. Recent student demonstrations were attributed to a neglect in "ideological-educational" work with youth and to tolerance of non-party and unloyal attitudes.

25X1

COMMENT: Reorganization of university faculties, possibly abolishment of Warsaw University's troublesome philosophy faculty, is probably imminent in the wake of recent purges of leading liberal academicians. There has even been some talk of abolishing the traditional system of "chairs." Such a move would reduce the influence within the universities of individual professors.

25X1

SECRET